

Weekly Status & Information Report: October 22 - 26, 2012

1. Official City Meetings Scheduled the Week of October 29, 2012:

- City Council meeting, Monday, October 29, 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium.

All meetings are held in the Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue, and are open to the public unless noted otherwise. (City Clerk)

2. Hurricane Sandy Info: For helpful information, links and mobile apps related to the storm likely to begin affecting our area late Sunday, go to www.takomaparkmd.gov/sandy. City offices will not open for business if the federal government is closed. We'll let you know if we are able to be a warming/cooling/recharging station even if offices are closed. Please make sure you have emergency supplies to live without power for at least three days. Please check on neighbors that may need assistance due to the storm. Be safe! (Acting City Manager)

3. Book Sale: The Friends of the Library will hold their semi-annual used book sale tomorrow – Saturday, October 27, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on the Library lawn. There will be a great selection of books for sale at bargain prices! (Library)

4. Annual Halloween Events - Tomorrow...Tomorrow!!!: Please come out and join the Takoma Park Recreation Department as we prepare to BOOOOOO you away with a host of events that are designed for the entire family. On Saturday, October 27 beginning at 5:00 p.m., there will be our annual costume contest in Old Town, followed by the parade down to Piney Branch Elementary School and then of course the paaaartay!! For additional information or if you would like to volunteer for this event, please contact Lew McAllister at LewM@takomagov.org or (301) 891-7284. (Recreation)

5. Sidewalk Repairs: The City's sidewalk repair program continues next week on Hickory Avenue, Montgomery Avenue and Pine Avenue. These will likely be the last sidewalks done this year, as this type of work stops over the winter months. The City anticipates resuming the program to bring existing sidewalks into compliance with Americans With Disability Act requirements next Spring. (Public Works)

6. Scary Stories: Veteran tale-teller Candace Wolf will share scary stories on Monday, October 29 at 7:30 p.m. Best for ages 5 and up.

7. Train Dreams: On Tuesday, October 30, at 7:30 p.m. the Friends Reading Group will meet in the Community Center to discuss the novella "Train Dreams" by Pulitzer Prize winner Denis Johnson. All are welcome. (Library)

8. In case of bad weather – call the Library at 301-891-7259 or check the Library or the City web site to check for cancellations. (Library)

9. Bikeways Enhancements Open House - November 8: The City is enhancing bicycle wayfinding in Takoma Park with new Signed Bike Routes along Elm and Poplar Avenues and an updated bike map at Sligo Creek. Learn about the City's bikeways improvements and share your input at an Open House hosted by City Staff. Thursday, November 8, 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue. See: www.theNewAve.com/do/bikeways-open-house (<http://www.thenewave.com/do/bikeways-open-house>). (Housing and Community Development)

10. Annual Holiday Art Sale - Call for Artists - Deadline November 9: The Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Commission is soliciting artists and crafters for the seventh annual Holiday Arts Sale, to be held on Saturday, December 8. A juried sale, only original, hand-made work may be sold. Selections will be based on the quality and uniqueness of the work. Past sales have featured a variety of media including, but not limited to painting, photography, pottery, jewelry, textiles, and glass. The number of participants for each media will be limited to maintain a diversity of offerings. There is no application or commission fee. Deadline for applying for a table is Friday, November 9. For more information and an application form, please email SaraD@takomagov.org. (Housing and Community Development)

11. Request for Proposals - Exterior Home Repair Program: The City is seeking proposals from firms or individual who can provide construction services for the new Exterior Home Repair Program. Applicants will need to perform work assessments on approximately 20 single family homes, develop scopes of work for each property and provide labor and materials to complete identified repairs. The deadline for filing is December 17, 2012. There will be a pre-bid meeting on November 15 at 11 a.m. in the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue. To access the RFP, go to <https://s3.amazonaws.com/hcd-takomapark/public/RFP/RFP-13-5800-01-exterior-home-repair.pdf>. (Housing and Community Development)

12. Grants for Community Gardens on the New Ave: Dig into the New Ave with neighbors and friends in your own Community Garden! The City offers grants to small community groups to start or continue a garden project along New Hampshire Avenue. Grant awards in recent years have helped residents beautify the New Ave with landscaping, flowers, vegetables, and art! The deadline to apply is January 31, 2013. For more information, see: www.theNewAve.com/explore/parks-and-nature/gardening-greening-grant (<http://www.thenewave.com/explore/parks-and-nature/gardening-greening-grant>). (Housing and Community Development)

13. Call for Proposals - We are Takoma Series: The sky is the limit as far as programming goes for the City's popular "We are Takoma" series. Past offerings have included concerts, recitals, theater performances and readings of plays, dance, film

screenings, lectures and panel discussions. Our programming options are limited only by the size of our space and the technical demands of the event. If you are interested in being included in the series, drop us an email at SaraD@takomagov.org. Proposals will be accepted on a rolling basis with decisions will be made within 30 days of submission and selected programming scheduled accordingly. Programming is to be offered on a monthly basis, free of charge to the public. (Housing and Community Development)

14. Are You In Need of Exterior Home Repairs?: If you own your home and have a household income that is no higher than: 1-person-\$49,200, 2-person-\$56,200, or 3-person-\$63,250, etc., you may be eligible for the City's new "Exterior Home Repair Program." If determined to be eligible for participation, approved repairs will be done this spring and summer and completed at no charge to the homeowner. For further information and an application, call Linda Walker at 301.891.7222. (Housing and Community Development)

15. Jazzercise Continues to Roll: Jazzercise had another successful week at Takoma Park Recreation Center. Jazzercise is offered on Mondays and Wednesdays from 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. This is a class that combines the art of jazz with the science of exercise physiology. Each 60-70 minute class includes easy to follow fun aerobic-dance routines, weights for muscle strength, and stretching exercises - all to the beat of great music. For more information, contact John Webster at 301-891-7289 or johnw@takomagov.org. (Recreation)

16. Kids Night Out Has a Great Night!: Kids Night Out had a rousing evening. Youth ages 6-12 came to Takoma Park Recreation Center on Friday, October 20, to participate in activities such as kickball, dodgeball and table tennis. Everyone had a wonderful time. (Recreation)

17. New Opportunity for Seniors Follow-up: "Introduction to Conversational English for ESOL Seniors" has proven to be a wonderful new addition to the Silver Foxes Seniors Program. Takoma Park residents Marge Tolchin and Sharon Levy, retired Montgomery County educators, volunteered to be instructors for this program, and led a very successful first session. The next six-week session will begin Tuesday, October 30. Growing in popularity with Takoma Park residents, these classes are designed to provide an introduction to conversational English for seniors whose first language is not English. For more information, please contact Paula Lisowski at 301-891-7280 or paulal@takomagov.org. (Recreation)

18. Winter Basketball League – Over 300 Registered Already!: More than 300 participants have registered for the upcoming Winter Basketball League. In fact, some divisions are close to reaching capacity! The League is for grades: K-8. Don't miss out - sign up today: www.activenet.active.com/takomaparkrecreation or call (301) 891-7290. (Recreation)

19. Fall Class Spotlight - Yoga Nidra: This meditative yoga practice helps reduce stress, increases general physical and mental well-being and brings greater ease and joy into everyday life. Practitioners report decreases in insomnia, depression, anxiety and chronic pain, as well as increases in energy levels, sleep, and overall well-being. Students are guided through the meditation while lying on a yoga mat and blankets or seated in a comfortable resting position. Each student should bring their own yoga mat, a few blankets, and a pillow. Class runs from Monday, Nov 5 - Monday, Dec 10, 2012 from 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. in the Dance Studio, Takoma Park Community Center (7500 Maple Avenue). Cost: TP City Residents \$60, Non-residents \$70. To register online, please visit www.activenet.active.com/takomaparkrecreation. For more information, please call Lew McAllister at (301)891-7284. (Recreation)

20. Multi-Media Instructors Needed: The Takoma Park Recreation Department is looking for a few skilled, motivated and highly talented instructors to teach multi-media classes in our state-of-the art multi-media lab. Interested and qualified individuals should contact Lew McAllister at LewM@takomagov.org or (301) 891-7284 by Thursday, November 1. (Recreation)

21. First Time Home Buyer's Class: Eighteen Takoma Park residents received certificates of accomplishment when they attended the First Time Home Buyer Class last Saturday at the Community Center. The certificate is needed when a buyer of a home or condominium applies for a low interest loan that is offered by the county and state. The current rate on these lows is a record low 3.25%. In addition to accessing these loans, the participants learned the ins and outs of the buying process when they heard from speakers from a lending institution, a real estate office, a title company, an inspection company and a representative from an insurance firm. The next class will be held in the spring. For further information, call 301.891.7222. (Housing and Community Development)

22. New Ave Walking Guides Updated: The popular New Ave Walking Guides have been updated and redesigned, providing five categorized tours that explore unique shopping and eating at the Takoma Langley Crossroads. Download and print your own at www.theNewAve.com/explore/walking-tours (<http://www.thenewave.com/explore/walking-tours>). (Housing and Community Development)

23. Staff Professional Development: Planning Intern, Nima Upadhaya, attended a two-day American Planning Association Regional Conference, October 18 and 19, on the theme, "What Makes a Complete Community." (Housing and Community Development)

24. Officers in Meetings:

- On October 24, Chief Goldberg attended the monthly Criminal Justice Coordinating Commission (CJCC) meeting.
- On October 25, Chief Goldberg attended a meeting with Silver Spring's Special Assignment Team (SAT) to discuss mutual issues. (Police)

25. Officers in Training: On October 22 and 25, various officers attended the 2012 Patrol Rifle Range firearms qualifications at the MPCTC Firearms Training Facility in Sykesville. (Police)

26. Crime Report: The most recent Takoma Park Police Weekly Crime Report (October 19-25, 2012) may be viewed online at http://cathylevy.blogspot.com/2012/10/takoma-park-police-department-weekly_26.html. (Police)

27. Traffic Enforcement: Officers conducted at least 89 traffic stops, which resulted in citations, one vehicle impound and one Driving Under the Influence (DUI) arrest from traffic.

During October 15-25, 2012, the following details were completed:

October 15, 2012

- Hilltop Avenue & Maple Avenue (do not enter sign enforcement) – conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one warning.
- Erskine Street & 13th Place (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued three warnings.

October 16, 2012

- Ethan Allen Avenue & Jackson Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued five warnings.
- Ethan Allen Avenue & Jackson Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued one State citation.

October 17, 2012

- Ethan Allen Avenue & Jackson Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued two State citations and one warning.
- Hilltop Avenue & Maple Avenue (do not enter sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued five warnings.
- Maple Avenue & Ritchie Avenue (no right turn enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one warning and one Safety Equipment Repair Order (SERO).
- Hilltop Road & Geneva Avenue (do not enter sign enforcement) - conducted a two-hour detail and issued three State citations and 20 warnings.

October 18, 2012

- Maple Avenue & Ritchie Avenue (no right turn enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued one State citation, four warnings and one Safety Equipment Repair Order (SERO).
- Hilltop Avenue & Maple Avenue (do not enter sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued no citations or warnings.
- Maple Avenue & Ritchie Avenue (no right turn enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one warning.

October 19, 2012

- Hilltop Avenue & Geneva Avenue (do not enter sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued 10 warnings.
- Ethan Allen Avenue & Jackson Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a two-hour detail and issued one State citation and four warnings.
- 1000 block Larch Avenue (stop sign and one-way enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation and one warning.
- Maple Avenue & Ritchie Avenue (no left turn enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued three warnings.

October 21, 2012

- New Hampshire Avenue & Glenside Drive (red light enforcement) - conducted a two-hour detail and issued four State citations and two warnings.

October 22, 2012

- Maple Avenue & Hilltop Avenue (do not enter sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued two State citations and one warning.
- Maple Avenue & Ritchie Avenue (no left turn enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued one warning.
- Hilltop Avenue & Maple Avenue (do not enter sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation and one warning.

October 23, 2012

- Maple Avenue & Ritchie Avenue (no right turn enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued two warnings.
- Maple Avenue & Hilltop Avenue (do not enter sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued no citations or warnings.
- Hilltop Avenue & Maple Avenue (no-thru traffic enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued no citations or warnings.
- Ethan Allen Avenue & Jackson Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued two State citations and two warnings.

October 25, 2012

- New Hampshire Avenue & Ethan Allen Avenue (red light enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued one State citation and seven warnings.
 - Maple Avenue & Sherman Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued no citations or warnings.
 - New Hampshire Avenue & Ethan Allen Avenue (red light enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued six warnings.
 - Flower Avenue & Garland Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation.
- (Police)